

What is claimed is:

1 1. A multi-chamber oil boom comprising:

2 a first bladder having an inflatable interior;

3 a second bladder having an inflatable interior;

4 a valve including:

5 an air passage that communicates between said inflatable interior of said first
6 bladder and said inflatable interior of said second bladder; and

7 a clamping spring assembly that provides compressive force to close said air
8 passage until partial inflation of said inflatable interior of said first bladder causes
9 said air passage to open against the compressive force of said clamping spring
10 assembly to open said air passage and allow air to travel from said inflatable interior
11 of said first bladder to said inflatable interior of said second bladder.

1 2. A method for making a multi-chamber oil boom having a valve positioned between a first
2 and second bladder thereof, the method comprising the steps of:

3 providing a first chamber section;

4 providing a second chamber section;

5 forming a first bladder in the first chamber section and a second bladder in the second
6 chamber section, wherein the first and second bladders each have an inflatable interior;

7 forming a valve including an air passage having an inlet and an outlet, wherein the
8 air passage is biased to remain closed by a clamping spring assembly;

9 fixing the valve between the first and second bladders such that the inlet of the air
10 passage of the valve communicates with the inflatable interior of the first bladder and the
11 outlet of the air passage of the valve communicates with the inflatable interior of the second
12 bladder.